

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 of the subject application are currently pending, and have been rejected by the Examiner. In the accompanying amendment, claims 1, 10, and 19 have been amended, and claims 7 and 16 have been cancelled. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found in the written description, claims, and drawings of the specification as originally filed. On account of the foregoing listed support for the amendments to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the claims do not add new matter.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that these amendments place the claims in better form for consideration on appeal, and should be admitted under 37 CFR § 1.116.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 10 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Takase et al (US Patent No. 6,381,513). Applicants traverse.

Amended claim 1 includes the following limitations:

A memory card interface apparatus comprising:

a plurality of memory card interfaces comprising a first subset to interface with a memory card of a first type and a second subset to interface with a memory card of a second type, wherein the memory card of the first type and the memory card of the second type are accessible in parallel.

(Amended claim 1, emphasis added).

Takase describes a system in which a plurality of memory cards of the same type may be accessed in parallel. For example, see columns 15 and 16. However, Takase fails to teach or suggest that a memory card of the first type and a memory card of a second type may be accessed in parallel.

Pua (US 2002/0178307) describes a system which provides serial access to a number of memory cards of different types (see paragraph 37, column 2). However, Pua does not teach or suggest that a memory card of a first type and a memory card of a second type may be accessible in parallel.

Thus, the combination of Takase and Pua would provide a system in which there would be parallel access for memory cards of the same type, and serial access for memory cards of different types. The combination of Takase and Pua would still fail to teach or suggest that a memory card of the first type and a memory card of the second type may be access in parallel, as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Takase and Pua does not teach or suggest all limitations of claim 1, and therefore cannot anticipate or render claim 1 obvious. Given that claims 2-9 depend on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not anticipated or rendered obvious by the combination of Takase and Pua.

Amended claim 10 includes limitations similar in scope to the above discussed limitation of claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 10 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by the combination of Takase and Pua. Given that claims 11-18 depend on claim 10, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not anticipated or rendered obvious by the combination of Takase and Pua.

Amended claim 19 includes limitations similar in scope to the above discussed limitations of claim 1, and accordingly it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 19 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by the combination of Takase and Pua. Further, given that claims 20 and 21 depend on claim 19, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not anticipated or rendered obvious in view of the combination of Takase and Pua.

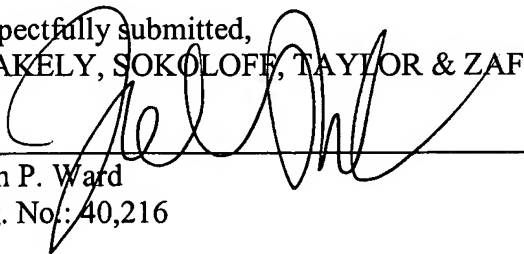
It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, all rejections have been overcome. All pending claims are now in condition for allowance, which is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner determines that prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Vani Moodley at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicants hereby request such an extension.

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Respectfully submitted,
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